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101ST CONGRESS
1st Session

SENATE

REPORT
101-15

REPORT TO THE SENATE ON THE JURISDICTION AND A SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

FOR THE 100TH CONGRESS

APRIL 4 (legislative day, JANUARY 3), 1989.—Ordered to be printed

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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

(101st Congress)

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Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, and in accordance with section 8(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, submits the following report of committee activities for the 100th Congress

CURRENT JURISDICTION

Under rule XXV the jurisdiction of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry extends to—

1. Agricultural economics and research.
2. Agricultural extension services and experiment stations.
3. Agricultural production, marketing, and stabilization of prices.
4. Agriculture and agricultural commodities.
5. Animal industry and diseases.
6. Crop insurance and soil conservation.
7. Farm credit and farm security.
8. Food from fresh waters.
9. Food stamp programs.
10. Forestry, and forest reserves and wilderness areas other than those created from the public domain.
11. Home economics.
12. Human nutrition.
13. Inspection of livestock, meat, and agricultural products.
14. Pests and pesticides.
15. Plant industry, soils, and agricultural engineering.
16. Rural development, rural electrification, and watersheds.
17. School nutrition programs.

Such committee shall also study and review, on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to food, nutrition, and hunger, both in the United States and in foreign countries, and rural affairs, and report thereon from time to time.

SUMMARY OF THE 100TH CONGRESS

During the 100th Congress, 194 Senate and House bills were referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. Of those, 23 were reported to the Senate; the Committee was discharged from consideration of 10 other measures. Several bills before the Committee were combined. In all, 36 public laws within the Committee's jurisdiction were enacted by Congress.

In addition, the Committee received 133 Executive Communications. The Committee, including subcommittees, conducted 47 business meetings to consider and report legislation and nominations, and participated in 6 Senate-House conferences.

I. MAJOR LEGISLATION ENACTED INTO LAW

(A) Agricultural Credit Act of 1987.
(B) Emergency Agricultural Relief Act of 1988.
(C) Hunger Prevention Act of 1988.
(D) Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (Agricultural Portion).
(E) Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Amendments of 1988.

MAJOR LEGISLATION PASSED BY THE COMMITTEE

(A) THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT ACT OF 1987

The impetus for the Agricultural Credit Act derived from the continuing depression in agriculture that began in the early 1980's but whose roots originated in the inflationary period of the 1970's.

During that period, U.S. agricultural producers reacted to higher commodity prices, technological gains, and persistent hunger in parts of the world by vastly increasing production. This was accomplished by increasing yields per acre and by bringing 50 to 60 million new acres into crop production in the 1970's and the early 1980's. These production increases required vast capital expenditures that resulted in aggregate farm debt growing from about $80 billion in 1960 to almost $220 billion by the early 1980's. That aggregate debt dropped to approximately $175 billion by year-end 1988.

The Act looks to the future—to an agricultural credit delivery system that not only will deal sensitively with today's financially-stressed farm borrowers but one that will be competitive, efficient, and more responsive to economic realities. It establishes new safeguards that should help the Nation's agricultural credit industry from repeating its mistakes of the past and assure adequate levels of competitively priced credit for our farmers and ranchers in the future.

Major components of the bill include

Restructuring of farm loans

The Act requires Farm Credit System lenders to restructure the loans of financially-stressed farm-borrowers, in order to help keep farmers on the land and help improve the financial condition of System institutions. Restructuring (which includes all forms of debt

servicing including writing off of loan principal) is required if the lender will recover more on the loan through restructuring than by going to foreclosure.

Additional protection for farmer-borrowers

The Act includes a number of provisions designed to give distressed and delinquent farmer-borrowers of the Farm Credit System and Farmers Home Administration a fair opportunity to overcome credit problems without adversely affecting creditor rights.

These include: review of adverse credit decisions, homestead protection, rights of "first refusal" so family farmers can repurchase foreclosed property, borrower access to lender information, an improved Farmers Home Administration interest rate buy-down program, and authority for matching grants to States that operate farm loan mediation programs.

Farm credit system assistance

The Act authorizes financial assistance, as needed, to prevent the failure of System institutions. The Committee did not provide a specific amount of funds for assistance because there was no clear evidence on the exact amount of Federal assistance needed. However, the Act authorized up to $4 billion, in total, to be provided at the direction of the Assistance Board depending on economic conditions that cannot now be accurately predicted. Funds will be made available on an as-needed basis over the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Act.

The Federal assistance is to be coupled with needed reform and improvement in System management, brought about through Assistance Board agreements with troubled institutions when the funds are made available.

The Assistant Board is to work with troubled System institutions to develop business plans that maximize self-help and make efficient use of Federal funds.

Other components include

I. Regarding farm credit

Guarantees that borrowers who purchase System stock as a requirement for a loan prior to a specified date are able to redeem that stock at par value;

Corrects certain inequities and shortcomings of the System self-help program provided by the 1985 Farm Credit Amendments Act;

Establishes a new insurance fund to insure investors in Systems bonds; and

Authorizes widespread reorganization of System institutions subject to a mandatory timetable for stockholders approval of various merger proposals so that the System (which has remained essentially unchanged for over 50 years) will be more efficient and competitive.

II. Regarding the Farmers Home Administration

Mandates restructuring of delinquent loans rather than foreclosure if restructuring results in greater recovery by the agency on the loans;

Provides enhanced borrower rights and protections when foreclosure is necessary, including homestead protection and first right of refusal to reacquire land forfeited to the agency;

Provides matching grants for State mediation programs and requires that the Farmers Home Administration and the Farm Credit System participate in State mediation efforts;

Improves the Farmers Home Administration's handling of its inventory property; and

Provides for an improved secondary market for FmHA guaranteed loans.

III. Regarding commercial banks and insurance companies

Establishes a secondary market for farm real estate and rural housing loans that would be backed by a line of credit from the U.S. Treasury.

(B) EMERGENCY AGRICULTURAL RELIEF ACT OF 1988

The drought of 1988 was unusual for several reasons. First, it was a spring drought of enough severity to preclude some crops from germinating. Second, the drought was very widespread, affecting many of the main production regions of the United States.

Further, many parts of the United States suffering from the drought also had low winter rains or snows. This left subsurface moisture levels in these areas below normal at the beginning of the dry spring, leaving short ground moisture reserves needed by crops for periods of low rainfall during the growing season.

The geographic distribution of the 1988 drought was also of particular concern. Information available to the Committee indicated that if the portions of the country rated as suffering from "extreme," "severe," or "moderate" drought were combined, more than half the country suffered from drought during the spring and early summer of 1988. In comparison, the droughts of 1986 and 1987 were limited primarily to Southern and Mississippi River Delta States.

During the 1986 and 1987 droughts, the reduction in supply of the major program crops (wheat, feed grains, Upland cotton, and rice) was not large enough to affect market prices significantly. Therefore, producers who had their crops damaged by those droughts still received sizable deficiency payments from the Government.

The drought of 1988, on the other hand, was very widespread. Yields were reduced in nearly every major corn and spring wheat producing state. This reduction in grain supplies, particularly for feed grains, drove market prices up and substantially reduced deficiency payments for a number of crops. Thus, producers faced a loss not only of their crop, but of government income support as well.

For these reasons, Congress passed the Emergency Agricultural Relief Act of 1988 in record time. Less than 3 months elapsed be-

tween initial recognition of the crisis and final passage of the legislation.

Major components of the bill include

Extent of disaster coverage

Provides disaster benefits for those producers who suffered losses in 1988 due to drought, hail, excessive moisture, or related conditions.

Assistance to livestock producers

Establishes a new program, effective 15 days after enactment, to replace the Emergency Feed/Emergency Feed Assistance Programs and authorizes other forms of livestock assistance (e.g., feed donations and transportation assistance).

Specifies that eligible livestock include cattle, sheep, goats, swine, poultry (including egg producers), horses and mules (used for food or food production), fish for food, and other animals designated by USDA, that are part of a foundation herd or offspring that are purchased as a part of normal operations.

Directs USDA to implement a limited emergency forage program for established pasture damaged by drought on a cost-share basis. USDA payed half the cost of seeding and fertilizing of certain forage crops on the land to facilitate late fall 1988 or early spring 1989 grazing and haying. This particular program was strictly limited to maximum outlays of no more than $50 million with no individual producer receiving more than $3,500.

Assistance to crop producers

Provides disaster payments to producers of crops who suffered losses of more than 35 percent of their 1988 crop due to the drought or related conditions.

Provides reduced yield and prevented planting disaster payments to wheat, feed grains, cotton, and rice program participants at a rate of 65 percent of the 1988 target price or 65 percent of the county loan rate in the case of nonparticipants who raise program crops.

Provides payments for peanuts, sugar beets, sugarcane, and tobacco producers at a rate of 65 percent of the 1988 price support level.

Provides payments for soybeans and other nonprogram crop producers at a rate of 65 percent of the average market price for the last 5 years.

Limits combined crop insurance benefits and disaster payments to an amount that would not exceed income from normal crop yields.

Dairy price support

Directs USDA to increase the price support for milk 50 cents per hundredweight effective April 1, 1989 through June 30, 1989. Deleted the Secretary's authority to reduce the price support for milk on January 1, 1989.

Commodity stock adjustment

Authorized the Secretary to permit producers to plant soybeans and sunflowers on not less than 10 percent nor more than 25 percent (at the discretion of USDA) of their wheat, feed grain, Upland cotton, or rice program acreage in 1989 without affecting their established crop acreage bases. Provides for the Secretary to hold a producer signup for this program and to determine the effect that allowing such planting will have on acreage and prices. The Secretary is required to limit participation in the program if he estimates that the additional planting will result in prices for soybeans falling below a specified level. The Secretary is allowed to extend this program through 1990 at his own discretion.

Permits producers to plant any portion of their farm acreage base to oats in 1989 and 1990 if the feed grain acreage reduction program requirement is 12.5 percent or less of the crop acreage base. As with the oilseed provisions, the producers' crop acreage base is protected.

For the 1988 marketing year only, if the release price for farmer-owned reserve loans is reached, producers may repay loans without penalty for the remainder of the marketing year, even if prices later fall below the release price.

Forestry provisions

Directs USDA to provide drought assistance to farmers who planted tree seedlings in 1987 or 1988 for commercial purposes. Assistance is to be made at the rate of 65 percent of the replanting cost of seedlings lost because of drought or related conditions in 1988. The benefits are limited to tree farmers and commercial growers who own 1,000 acres or less and who suffer losses greater than 35 percent. Assistance is capped at $25,000 per person.

Conservation and wildlife enhancement

Encourages conservation and wildlife enhancement practices on CRP lands by refunding 25 percent of a producer's rental payments that were withheld on lands hayed or grazed under drought assistance provisions. The producers were required to split the cost of carrying out such practices with the USDA.

Assistance to ethanol producers

Permits USDA to sell Commodity Credit Corporation owned corn as feedstock for ethanol producers at reduced prices. The maximum amount of corn available for sale for this purpose was restricted to ethanol producers who utilize no more than 30 million bushels per year.

(C) HUNGER PREVENTION ACT OF 1988

Congress established the Food Stamp Program in 1964 to alleviate hunger and malnutrition among low-income households. The level of food stamp support is based on family size, income levels, and resources. Eligible applicants receive food stamp coupons to buy food through normal market channels, primarily grocery stores.

As originally enacted, the Food Stamp Act provided that households would receive an amount of food stamps whose value was equal to the cost of USDA's Economy Food Plan. Households would purchase these food stamps for an amount based upon their income after deductions. Households with no net income would receive their food stamp allotments free of charge.

A series of amendments in subsequent years have sought to target the program's benefits to those most in need, improve the integrity and accuracy of issuance, and protect groups felt to be in special need, particularly the elderly, disabled, migrant and seasonal farm woarkers, and the homeless.

The nutrition assistance in the Act is carefully targeted to the neediest recipients. The Committee reported this legislation after receiving significant testimony on the evidence of hunger that continues to affect poor Americans. At the same time the Committee was determined to identify measures that would best target the assistance to those most in need. This was a major goal of the several hearing before the Committee, and the Nutrition Subcommittee, which were conducted last year.

The final package is well-targeted and should make the greatest possible impact in improving nutrition given the funds available.

Major components of the bill include

Title I: Emergency hunger prevention

TEFAP provisions.—Maintains TEFAP (Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program) for 2 more years and requires USDA to buy $120 million worth of high protein foods per year. Authorize $50 millon per year to cover State and local distribution and handling costs.

Soup kitchens.—Provides $40 million per year for 2 years ($32 million in the third year) to soup kitchens, food pantries, and emergency feeding centers in addition to the traditional levels of commodities they receive.

Increase basic food stamp levels.—Increases food stamp levels to 103 percent of the Thrifty Food Plan—phased-in over 3 years.

Title II: Nutrition improvements

Child nutrition.—Improves quality of school breakfasts and increases the number of meals for which USDA reimbursement can be obtained for the Child Care Food Program.

Outreach.—Provides a 50 percent Federal match for nutrition outreach efforts by States that wish to inform low-income households about food stamps.

Paperwork reduction.—Allows States the option of calculating benefits without reviewing monthly report forms—i.e., make Monthly Reporting-Retrospective Budgeting a State option. Households would instead be required to report any actual changes within 10 days.

Title III: Administrative simplification and reduction in barriers to participation in the Food Stamp Program

Simplifies application forms and advises applicant households of what they need to qualify for food stamps.

Promotes program compliance by requiring States to advise households of what they need to do to comply with program requirements.

Facilitates participation by eligible persons in rural areas in the Food Stamp Program.

Reduces barriers to participation for farmers.

Enhances convenience for the elderly in claiming the medical expense deduction.

Title IV: Family Self-Sufficiency

Child care deduction.—Provides for a child care deduction of up to $160 per month, per child, if that enables parents to work, receive job training, or receive education preparatory to working.

Employment and training requirements.—Improves the current food stamp Employment and Training Program so that job training efforts are cost-effectively focused on those who could most benefit from job training. Measures results by looking at the number of recipients who are able to get off the Food Stamp Program by finding work. Also provides for State reimbursement, with a 50 percent Federal match, for certain child care and other expenses incurred in connection with obtaining this job training.

Title V: Miscellaneous

WIC farmers' market projects.—Sets up 10 pilot projects to provide families that receive WIC benefits with vouchers to buy fresh produce and farm products at farmers' markets.

Food bank demonstration project.—Provides for several projects in which USDA commodities are directly delivered to "regional" food banks and used to assist the needy.

(D) OMNIBUS TRADE AND COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 1988 (AGRICULTURAL PORTION)

The dramatic decline in U.S. agricultural exports during the period 1982-87 has had a significant impact on U.S. farmers, processors, and exporters. As markets disappeared, so did revenue, jobs, land value, investments, and some viable farm operations. Dwindling agricultural exports have adverse effects on the Nation's overall trade balance. This crisis was caused by, among other things, the actions of our competitors through subsidization, trade barriers, marketing boards, State trading organizations and other mechanisms which distort trading practices to their benefit.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which provides rules applicable to the imposition of trade barriers or implementation of subsidies, is in dire need of being reformed in order to more effectively deal with trade problems. Against this background, the nations that are parties to the GATT are beginning work on revisions to the global trading rules. The opportunity to reform the GATT rules is one the Nation cannot afford to lose.

Within this context the agricultural title of the omnibus trade bill attempts to achieve several goals, including:

(1) A reversal of the decline in U.S. agricultural exports through the use of a wide variety of export promotion programs designed to make U.S. commodities more competitive, to

better inform foreign countries about our products and programs, and to increase demand for U.S. commodities;

(2) The creation of a solid foundation from which the United States can negotiate successfully in the multilateral trade negotiations under the GATT; and

(3) Direct congressional involvement with respect to international trade and the conduct of the GATT negotiations.

Major components of the bill include

Policy to be competitive in agricultural trade

The bill provides that it is the policy of the United States to provide agricultural commodities for export at competitive prices; to support the principle of free and fair trade in agricultural commodities; to support the multilateral trade negotiating objectives set forth in the bill; and to seek the elimination of barriers to agricultural trade.

Long-term agricultural trade strategy reports

The bill requires the Secretary of Agriculture to prepare annual long-term agricultural trade strategy reports establishing policy goals for U.S. agricultural trade and exports. The reports must set forth recommended levels of spending on international activities of the Department of Agriculture for 1-, 5-, and 10-year periods.

Triggered marketing loan

The bill also requires the President to submit a certification to Congress, no later than 45 days after January 1, 1990, as to whether there has been significant progress toward achieving an agreement with respect to agricultural trade under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). If the President cannot certify that there has been significant progress toward reaching an agrement, the President must instruct the Secretary of Agriculture to implement a marketing loan program for the 1990 crops of wheat, feed grains, ands soybeans unless the President determines that the implementation of a marketing loan would harm further negotiations. If the President so determines, an expanded Export Enhancement Program must be implemented unless the implementation of such a program would be a substantial impediment to achieving an agreement under the GATT.

EEP expansion

The bill extends the authorization for the Export Enhancement Program (EEP) through 1990 and increases the ceiling on the value of commodities that can be used under the program from $1.5 billion to $2.5 billion.

Dairy Export Enhancement Program

The bill requires that payments in commodities under the Dairy Export Incentive Program be made in the form of generic commodity certificates. Further, if the generic commodity certificates are exchanged for dairy products, the Secretary of Agriculture must ensure that the dairy products are sold for export and that the sales do not displace usual U.S. export sales of dairy products.

Foreign Agricultural Service

The bill strengthens the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) of the Department of Agriculture by providing for an overall increase in authorized appropriations for fiscal years 1988 through 1990 of $20 million. The increase is to be used for general market development activities, including market development efforts in developing countries, and to increase in number and quality international trade shows. The bill also provides for a minimum level of FAS personnel of 900 and the designation of senior FAS officers as Minister-Counselors.

Promotion of wood and wood product exports

The bill contains provisions designed to make wood and wood products fully eligible for use in Public Law 480 market development projects and in the short and intermediated term export credit guarantee programs. The bill also establishes a cooperative National Forest products marketing program that is designed to improve the competitiveness of the U.S. forest producsts industry.

Aid and trade missions

Establishes Aid and Trade Missions to provide an integrated approach toward increasing exports of U.S. agricultural products to developing countries. The goal of the missions is to seek commitments for use of the Export Enhancement Program, the Dairy Export Incentive Program, and other export credit guarantee programs.

Public Law 480 and Title VI—Section 416

Provides for expanded use of existing authorities to promote exports through development and other projects by viewing surplus commodities as potential development resources, and by doubling from 5 percent to 10 percent the floor on the value of commodities which must be used for local currency sales under Public Law 480 and Section 416 to finance private voluntary organizations and cooperative development projects.

(E) FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, AND RODENTICIDE ACT (FIFRA) AMENDMENTS OF 1988

In the past few years, the General Accounting Office, the National Academy of Sciences, and several congressional committees reported on the inadequacy of and contradictions within current pesticide law.

The purpose of this Act is to strengthen protection of public health and the environment and to ensure that affordable and effective products are available to pesticide users. As EPA proceeds through an accelerated reregistration process, data on toxicological properties of pesticides will be obtained. Once tested in accordance with contemporary standards, some older pesticides may be identified as oncogenic or potentially oncogenic, requiring regulatory action by EPA.

The 3-year FIFRA reauthorizing Act does this by authorizing major reforms in three crucial areas: reregistration, indemnification, and storage and disposal.

Reregistration of over 600 currently used pesticide active ingredients was to be completed by 1975. However, for a multitude of reasons that deadline was dropped in 1978. Inadequate resources and the sheer magnitude of the task have impeded the Agency's efforts to carry out the reregistration process.

Presently, EPA develops about 25 interim standards per year. To date, 194 interim registration standards and 5 final registration standards have been issued.

According to the General Accounting Office, these final standards may cost as much to develop, in both time and resources, as the interim standards. In the 15 years since Congress ordered the EPA to carry out a registration program, fewer than 2 percent of active ingredients have been completely reviewed and formally reregistered.

Indemnification provisions under the old provisions required the Environmental Protection Agency to idemnify all holders of suspended and canceled pesticide products. Persons covered included farmers, commercial applicators, pesticide formulators, pesticide dealers and distributors, and registrants. To date, the Office of Pesticide Programs has spent over $20 million for indemnity payments for two suspended and canceled chemicals, 2,4,5-T/Silvex and ethylene dibromide (EDB). A third chemical, dinoseb, was suspended in October 1986 and canceled with indemnification costs estimated at $40 million.

Because the Office of Pesticide Programs has a budget of approximately $40 million, indemnification procedures represent a significant liability, unless special funds are appropriated by Congress. In the FY 89 budget, Congress appropriated an additional $46 million for dinoseb indemnification costs.

Storage and disposal provisions of FIFRA prior to the 1988 amendments held the Environmental Protection Agency responsible for receiving, storing, and ultimately disposing of suspended and canceled pesticides. EPA projects that storage and disposal costs for the three suspended and canceled chemicals previously mentioned could have been as high as $196 million.

This legislation dramatically improves these three areas of pesticide law.

Major components of the act include

Reregistration

Provides for accelerated reregistration of older pesticide compounds over approximately 9 years by establishing statutory deadlines. GAO estimates completion date would have gone beyond 2026 at the current pace of reregistration.

Sets up registrant fee schedule to ensure that administrative costs of accelerated reregistration are fully funded. This will generate approximately $150 million in industry supplied fees. This additional funding, combined with the current $110 million will supply the estimated $260 million for the program over 9 years.

Earmarks up to $2 million annually to ensure the expedited processing of "me-too" applications.

Contains general enforcement provisions for reregistration that:

Conform definitions of "outstanding data requirement;" "to distribute or sell;" "to use any pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its labeling;" and "antimicrobial active ingredients."

Make submitting false data and violating suspension or cancellation orders unlawful acts.

Increase criminal penalties for failure to comply with reregistration requirements.

Indemnification

Eliminates indemnity payments to manufacturers of canceled pesticides.

Preserves indemnification of certain "end-users" (farmers) but makes indemnification payments available to all others only if Congress provides a line-item appropriation.

Storage and disposal

Provides for registrants to develop the necessary technology and to pay the cost of storage and disposal of suspended and canceled pesticides, with EPA responsible for a fraction of such costs. EPA's share of the storage cost depends on how quickly the Agency approves industry plans to dispose of the chemical. All disposal costs are borne by the registrant.

Includes authority for EPA to request records and inspect places where pesticides are being held.

Contains general enforcement provisions for storage and disposal that:

Provide that failure to submit required records or allow inspections will be considered an unlawful act.

Increase crminal penalties for failure to comply with storage and disposal requirements.

II. Other Committee Legislation Enacted Into Law

(A) H.R. 1123 to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to extend the date for submitting the report on Dairy Policy.

(B) H.R. 1157 to provide for an acreage diversion pilot program applicable to the wheat program for the 1987 and 1988 crops.

(C) H.R. 558 Urgent Relief for the Homeless Act.

(D) S. 1597 to amend the Farm Disaster Assistance Act of 1987 to extend the reporting date for the ethanol cost effectiveness study.

(E) H.R. 2971 to provide continuing authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to recover costs associated with cotton classing.

(F) H.R. 3457 to provide financial protection to poultry growers and sellers and clarify Federal jurisdiction.

(G) H.R. 148 to designate certain public lands in Michigan as wilderness.

(H) H.R. 3712 to designate the U.S. Livestock Insects Laboratory in Kerrville, Texas, as the "Knipling-Bushland Research Laboratory".

(I) H.R. 3492 amends the Rural Development Act of 1972 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to provide educational, training and counseling assistance to rural families affected by the current rural economic crisis.

(J) H.R. 2401 to extend authorization of the Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978.

(K) H.R. 3435 to provide that certain charitable donations, and payments for blood contributed, shall be excluded from income for purposes of the Food Stamp Program.

(L) H.R. 1340 to improve administration of the Department of Agriculture commodity distribution activities.

(M) H.R. 4556 to amend the provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1949 relating to certain cross compliance requirements under the Extra Long Staple Cotton Program.

(N) H.R. 2878 to designate certain National Forest System lands in Virginia and West Virginia as wilderness areas.

(O) S. 1652 (to authorize establishment by the Secretary of Agriculture of a plant stress and water conservation research laboratory and program at Lubbock, Texas.

(P) S. 2156 to amend the National School Act to require eligibility for free lunches to be based on nonfarm income poverty guidelines prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget.

(Q) H.R. 3980 to make technical corrections in the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987.

(R) H.R. 4694 to amend the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act to increase the statutory ceilings on license fees.

(S) H.R. 5090 to implement the United States-Canada-Free-Trade Agreement.

(T) S. 2641 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture and other agency heads to enter into agreements with foreign fire organizations for assistance in wildfire protection.

(U) H.R. 4998 to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to make technical corrections in the Family Independence Demonstration Project.

(V) H.R. 2835 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release certain restrictions on a parcel of land located in Henderson, Tennessee.

(W) H.R. 4345 to amend the United States Grain Standards Act to extend through September 30, 1993, the authority to charge and collect inspection and weighing fees.

(X) H.R. 4724 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release a reversionary interest of the United States in certain lands located in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi.

(Y) H.R. 2399 to provide for a study on the decline in U.S. forest productivity and determine the effects of atmospheric pollutants on forest environments.

(Z) H.R. 5325 to establish a commission to review and make recommendations for the improvement of the Federal Crop Insurance Program.

(AA) H.R. 5318 to amend the Egg Research and Consumer Information Act to limit total costs incurred by the Egg Board in collecting producer assessments, etc.

(BB) H.R. 4354 to designate certain National Forest System lands in the State of Oklahoma for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

(CC) S. 2151 to amend section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949.

(DD) H.R. 5395 the Sipsey Wild and Scenic River and Alabama Wilderness Addition Act of 1988.

(EE) S. 2885 to amend the Hunger Prevention Act of 1988 to make a technical correction.

HEARINGS

During the 100th Congress, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry (including its subcommittees), conducted 77 days of hearings on various subjects within its jurisdiction. The hearings included the following:

LEGISLATIVE

Department of Agriculture's Budget Request for 1988—Full Committee—Feb. 4, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-133).

Agricultural Credit—Subcommittee on Agricultural Credit (S. Hrg. 100-134):

The Farm Credit System—Feb. 26, 1987.

Farm Credit Proposals—Mar. 26, 1987.

Agricultural Trade Proposals—Subcommittee on Domestic and Foreign Marketing and Product Promotion—Mar. 10 and 12, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-218).

Agricultural Aid and Trade Missions Act, S. 659—Subcommittee on Agricultural Research, Conservation, Forestry, and General Legislation—Mar. 10, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-109).

Alternative Agricultural Products Research Act of 1987, S. 970—Full Committee—May 15, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-208).

Commodity Distribution Program Reform Act of 1987, S. 305—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations—May 19, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-351).

Reform and Modernization of the Farmers Home Administration, S. 1179—Full Committee—June 9, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-409).

Farm Credit Capital Corporation Testimony of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer—Subcommittee on Agricultural Credit—June 9, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-356).

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)—Full Committee (S. Hrg. 100-394):

Part I:

Pesticide Contamination in Ground Water—Apr. 29, 1987.

Pesticide Residues in Food—May 20, 1987.

Part II:

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Reform of 1987, S. 1516—July 30, 1987.

Lower Des Plaines Tributaries Watershed Plan—Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry—June 17, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-460).

Department of Agriculture's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 1989—Full Committee—Mar. 22, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-794).

Hearings on the National Dairy Program—Full Committee (S. Hrg. 100-828):

To Receive Testimony on the Review of the National Commission on Dairy Policy Report—Apr. 28, 1988.

The Dairy Farm Protection Act (S. 1869) and Milk Marketing Orders—May 11, 1988.

Reauthorization of the Federal Grain Inspection Service—Subcommittee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation—Apr. 29, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-760).

The United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement—Full Committee—May 24, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-896).

The Agricultural Research Commercialization Act of 1988—S. 2413—Subcommittee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation—June 6, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-832).

Drought Legislation (S. 2631) Full Committee—July 12, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-950).

The Winding Stair Mountain, Oklahoma Wilderness Bill—S. 2571—Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry—Sept. 7, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-886).

OVERSIGHT

The Status of American Foreign Food Assistance Programs—Subcommittee on Agricultural Research, Conservation, Forestry, and General Legislation—Feb. 5, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-47).

Examination of Problems Affecting the Farm Community—Full Committee (S. Hrg. 100-401):

Agricultural Trade—Minneapolis, MN—Feb. 9, 1987.

The Status of the Farm Economy—Bismarck, ND—Feb. 9, 1987.

Farm Credit—Omaha, NE—Feb. 10, 1987.

Farm Incomes—Underwood, IA—Feb. 10, 1987.

Rural Life—Garretson, SD—Feb. 11, 1987.

Rural Development and the Health of Georgia Commodity Programs—Tifton, GA—Mar. 30, 1987.

Proposed Changes in Farmers Home Administration Credit Regulations—Full Committee—Mar. 11, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-175).

The 1985 Farm Bill Revisited: Competing Views—Full Committee—Mar. 18, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-206).

Generic Payment-in-Kind Certificates—Full Committee—Mar. 26, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-219).

Nutrition for the Homeless—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations—Apr. 2, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-207).

Rural Area Revitalization—Full Committee (S. Hrg. 100-355):

The Economic Problems of Rural Communities—Apr. 7, 1987.

Rural America: Jobs and Economic Revitalization—May 5, 1987.

The Current Status of Farm Programs—Subcommittee on Agricultural Production and Stabilization of Prices (S. Hrg. 100-415):

Testimony from Peter C. Myers, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture—May 21, 1987.

Testimony on the Status of Farm Programs and S. 658, the Family Farm Act—June 18, 1987.

Testimony From Farm Organizations—June 23, 1987.

Testimony From Commodity Organizations—June 25, 1987.

Foodborne Illnesses and Deaths—Full Committee—June 4, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-396).

WIC Program—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations—June 11, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-370).

New Uses for Farm and Forest Products—Subcommittee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation—June 26, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-471).

Oversight Hearing on the Commodity Futures Trading Commission—Full Committee—July 15, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-676).

Payment Limitation Provisions—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations—July 21, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-595).

Rural Agricultural Issues in the State of Vermont—Full Committee—Winooski, VT—July 27, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-597).

Management of Inventory Properties Held by Agricultural Lenders—Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry—Aug. 4, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-546).

Joint hearing on the Quality Control and Fiscal Sanctions in the Food Stamp Program—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations and the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Domestic Marketing, Consumer Relations, and Nutrition—Oct. 22, 1987, Serial No. 100-43.

Joint hearing on the Use and Regulation of Biotechnology in Agriculture—Full Committee and the Subcommittee on Technology and the Law of the Committee on the Judiciary—Nov. 4, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-565).

Joint hearing on the Impact of Federal Inspection Service Protein Measurement on Wheat Prices—Subcommittee on Agricultural Production and Stabilization of Prices and House Agriculture Subcommittee on Wheat, Soybeans, and Feed Grains—Nov. 10, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-561 and Serial No. 100-66, House Committee on Agriculture).

The Potential Effects of the Drawback Extension on the Sugar Program—Subcommittee on Agricultural Production and Stabilization of Prices—Nov. 16, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-596).

Review of the Conservation Reserve Program—Georgia Forestry Commission, Macon, GA—Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry—Jan. 19, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-564).

Hunger in America (S. Hrg. 100-710):

Hunger and Related Nutritional Issues—USDA Food Assistance Programs—Kennedy High School Auditorium, Cedar Rapids, IA—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations—Jan. 30, 1988.

USDA Food Assistance Programs—Full Committee—Mar. 1, 1988.

Domestic Hunger and Related Nutritional Issues—USDA Food Assistance Programs—Luther Place Memorial Church—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations—Mar. 28, 1988.

Matters Relating to the October 19 Market Break—Full Committee—Mar. 17 and Apr. 27, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-763).

Joint hearing on Soybeans and the World Market—Subcommittee on Agricultural Production and Stabilization of Prices and the Subcommittee on Domestic and Foreign Marketing and Product Promotion—Mar. 18, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-656).

Oversight on Conservation Programs—Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry—Mar. 24, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-757).

Joint hearings on Alternative Agricultural Systems and Related Agronomic and Economic Research and Extension Efforts—Subcommittee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation and

the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry—Apr. 21 and Apr. 28, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-762).

Joint hearing on Commodity Availability for Food Distribution Programs—Subcommittee on Agricultural Production and Stabilization of Prices and the Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations—May 10, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-903).

Joint hearing on Public Safety Issues Surrounding Marijuana Production in National Forests—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations and the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry—May 12, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-781).

Commodity Situation and Outlook—Subcommittee on Agricultural Production and Stabilization of Prices (S. Hrg. 100-885):

The Wheat Supply Situation—Reviewing Current Stocks and Production Estimates for the Upcoming Harvest Season—May 17, 1988.

Current and Expected World Wheat Demand and the Status of the U.S. Marketing Tools—May 25, 1988.

The Barley and Oats Situation—June 23, 1988.

Oversight on the Implementation of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987—Subcommittee on Agricultural Credit (S. Hrg. 100-965):

With Respect to the Jackson Farm Credit District—May 23, 1988.

With Respect to the Entire Farm Credit System—June 16, 1988.

With Respect to the Farmers Home Administration—Sept. 30, 1988.

Joint hearing on the Critical Challenges Facing Agricultural Research—Subcommittee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation and the House Subcommittee on Department Operations, Research, and Foreign Agriculture—Sept. 29, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-909 and Serial No. 100-111, House Committee on Agriculture).

Joint hearing on the Current policies Regarding Fire Management—Subcommittee on Public Lands, National Parks and Forests of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry—Sept. 29, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-997).

Hearing on the Soil Conservation Service Implementation of the Soil Conservation Compliance Provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985—Subcommittee on Nutrition and Investigations—Oct. 4, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-999).

Hearing on Effect of the Drought on Food Prices—Full Committee—Oct. 5, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-929).

The Potential Impact of Global Warming on Agriculture—Full Committee—Dec. 1, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-980).

NOMINATIONS

Nominations of Milton J. Hertz, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, and Ewen M. Wilson, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture and a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation—Full Committee—June 30, 1987 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-523).

Nomination of Roland R. Vautour for Under Secretary of Agriculture for Small Community and Rural Development and a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation—Full Committee—Nov. 16, 1987 (S. Hrg. 100-589).

Nomination of Wendy L. Gramm for Chairman of Commodity Futures Trading Commission—Full Committee—Feb. 3, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-675).

Reappointment of Fowler C. West to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the nomination of William W. Erwin to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Farm Credit System Assistance Board—Full Committee—June 7, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-831).

Nominations of John R. Dahl, George J. Benston, Derryl J. McLaren, Gordon C. Southern, and Edward C. Williamson, Jr., to be Members of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation—Full Committee—Sept. 13, 1988 (S. Hrg. 100-891).

NOMINATIONS

During the 100th Congress, President Reagan submitted 12 nominations which were referred to the Committee. Of these, 10 were reported favorably by the Full Committee and confirmed by the Senate. At the end of the 100th Congress, 2 nominations were pending before the Committee. Those confirmed were as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Milton J. Hertz, of North Dakota, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Ewen M. Wilson, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Roland R. Vautour, of Vermont, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Small Community and Rural Development and a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Wendy L. Gramm, of Texas, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Fowler C. West, of Texas, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

FARM CREDIT ASSISTANCE BOARD

William W. Erwin, of Indiana, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Farm Credit System Assistance Board.

FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL MORTGAGE CORPORATION

John R. Dahl, of North Dakota, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

Derryl J. McLaren, of Iowa, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

Gordon C. Southern, of Missouri, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

Edward C. Williamson, Jr., of Georgia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

Watershed Projects

The Committee has responsibility for approving watershed projects. During the 100th Congress the following watershed project was approved:

Lower Des Plaines Tributaries Watershed, Illinois.

Jan. 6, 1987.—Submitted to Senate and referred to Committee.

June 17, 1987.—Hearing held by the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry (S. Hrg. 100-460).

Sept. 9, 1987.—Approved by Committee.

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